Eubule Robert
his Book

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# The True Art of Angling: Thomas OR, Robert?

The Best and Speediest way of Taking all sorts of Fresh-Water Fish with the Worm, Fly, Paste, and other Baits, in their proper seasons; how to know the Haunts of Fish, and Angle for them in all Waters and Weathers, at the Top, Middle, and Bottom, Baiting of the Ground, and Night Baits, Oyls, and Oyntments, Baits Natural and Artificial: The several ways of Angling; To make Oyl of Asper, and many rare Secrets never before made publick; containing the whole Body of Angling, and Mystery of a Compleat Angler.

By J. S. Gent. A Brother of the Angle.

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# TO THE LOVERS OF Angling.

THough you see this Book but small, yet think not the matter is so it contains, for upon my Word, Brother Angler, you will find in it more than you are aware of, or could reasonably expect.

# To the Lovers

*It is ſtored with ſuch variety of choice Inſtructions, that I am bold to ſay, there are none of what Volumn ſoever, that in a direct and eaſie method, can ſhew you any thing like it. It comprehends whatever they pretend to, and many ſecrets that never before appeared in Print; nor is any thing omitted, that I could upon mature deliberation, reaſonably conceive might tend to pleaſure and profit, by well obſerving the Rules I have laid down, you need not be endowed with ſo large a ſtock of Patience, as ſome tell you*

an Angler ought to be poſſeſſed withal, but ſoon furniſhed with a Diſh of Fiſh to your Mind, you may change your Recreation, and not make this Irkſome to you, by a tedious poring on the Banks as many do, and for all that, return fretting at their ſlender ſucceſs.

But by the way let me tell you, Angling of all other Recreations, is the moſt Innocent, Contemplative, and leaſt Chargeable, it affords Advantage without coſt, and Pleaſure without toil or ſweating, it much contributes to a

*healthful Constitution of Body, by the pleasant Airs that breathe from wholesome Waters, to refresh and enliven Nature, and indeed has been held in high esteem, by Wise Men of all Ages; and therefore I recommend it to you, as the best winder-off of your leasure hours, wishing you Moderation in it, and Good Success.* Vale.

*Instructions*

## *Instructions for rightly preparing Angling Tackle, as Rods, Lines, Hooks, Floats, Plummets, and other matters required to accomplish the Angler, &c.*

IF we consider Recreations aright, they are intended to refresh the Mind, and unbend our Cares after Toil, Labour or Study, and therefore ought not to be pursued with too much fatigue, least they appear more like a business than pleasure, and so in the end become pall'd and tiresome; but when leasure hours will admit, they are very conveni-

ent to sweeten the Cares of Life. Among these, Angling is held by all the Ingenious, the most diverting for those that are contemplative, and though it require much Ingenuity, yet is it performed with little Labour, yet as in all other curious matters, Rules are necessary to be observed in it, and to that end I shall, as Experience, the best Master teaches, proceed Gradually, to lay down such, as perhaps the greatest part of Mankind are Ignorant of, and therefore according to the method I have chosen, it will be necessary first to speak of Tackle, without the Knowledge of which, the Angler must be like one that undertakes business, and wants Tools to accomplish it.

As for your Tops, Hasle or Yew Switches, gathered about

he

the middle of *December*, when most free from Sap, are accounted very good, though the two following, or preceeding Months, may reasonably serve, run them over a gentle heat, to make them tough; let the Stocks and Tops be taper, smooth and strait, the pieces of each Rod suitable in an exact symetry, free from knots, or else they will be deficient in Casting, and never Strike well, nor be truly pliable, but at a knot be apt to break and spoil your sport: To keep them in good order, bind them close to a strait Pole, and so let them continue long, that they may not warp, fasten a Loop of Silk or Horse hair, at the end of it, with Shoemakers Thread, that the Line may have play on it, and though many use Silk Lines, yet I prefer the Horse Hair as

the beſt, and in twiſting or breading, obſerve an Exact Evenneſs, for one Hair being ſhorter than the reſt in a Link, the whole ſtreſs will lye on that, and it breaking, renders the reſt much the weaker, and often a good Fiſh is loſt for want of this obſervance; make your knots ſure, that they ſlip not; as for the colour of your Hair, it being free from Nits or Goutineſs, which ſome call Botches, the pale, waterish colour is the beſt to deceive in a Clear Stream; but in Wheyiſh or Muddy Water, you may chuſe indifferently a Line, for the Ground Angle need not be ſo ſtrong as that you intend for your Rod at the Artificial Fly, abating, in the latter a Hair from top to bottom, in every Link from one or two, to ſix or eight, or more.

As

As for the Hook, it must be long in the Shank, and of a compass somewhat inclining to roundness, for if the Shank be strait, the point will stand outward, fasten the Hair on the inside of the Shank, to preserve it from fretting, whether you Angle at top or bottom, proportion your Hook for strength and compass, to the number of hairs you Angle with next it, neither use great Hooks to small Baits, nor great Baits to little ones, *Barbel* and *Chub* must have large Hooks, *Carps*, *Eels*, *Tench*, *Pearch*, *Breams*, those of a much lesser size, and Experience teaches, *Trouts* in clear Water, *Grayling*, *Smelts*, *Roaches*, *Salmon Smelts*, *Dace*, *Ruff* and *Gudgeons* are looneſt taken with small Hooks, though many use great ones for the *Trout*, especially in Muddy Water, yet

yet the *Salmon* muſt be Angled for with a Hook, according to his ſtrength; Hooks for Dubbies ſhould be generally ſmall, and ſo for Cod-baits, but larger for Worms, yet ſuch as ſome uſe for the latter, do not generally take in Clear Water: When you whip your Hook, which is ſtiled Arming, do it with Silk lightly rubbed with Shoemakers Wax, twiſting it round on the lower part of the Line, almoſt to the bent of the Hook on the inſide, having firſt ſmoothed the Shank of the Hook with a Whetſtone, and for Worms let it be red coloured Silk, but for Cod-bait, Paſts, *&c.* white.

Floats ſhould be of Cork for River Fiſhing, but for Ponds, Meers, and other ſtanding Waters, Quill and Pens will do very well, and in very ſlow Rivers, eſpecially when you are to

Angle

Angle near the Top with tender Baits or Paste; as for your Cork, let it be the fineſt, free from holes or flaws, bore it through with a ſmall hot Iron, thruſt in a quill fizeable, ſhapt with a Knife to the likeneſs of a Pyramid, Egg, or Pear, a proportionable bigneſs, and with a Pumice-ſtone finely ſmooth it, run your Line through the Quill, and wedge it in with the uppermoſt hard part of the Quill, the ſmaller end of the Cork being towards the Hook, and the bigger towards the Rod, let the Cork be ſo poiſed with Lead on the Line, that the Quill ſtanding directly upright, the leaſt Bite or Nibble may ſink the Cork.

To Lead your Line, do it with a Shot cloven, and then cloſed exactly on it, put not above

two

two of these on any Line, and that an Inch and a half, or two Inches distance from each other, and the lowermost plumb, seven or eight Inches from the Hook, but for a running Line, either in Clear or Muddy Water, nine or ten Inches; and if you in a River find a Sandy bottom, it being full of Wood with few Stones, shape your Lead a Diamond fashion, or to that of a Barley Corn or Oval, bring the ends very close and smooth to the Line, yet make it black, for the brightness will feare the Fish.

It is very necessary to have a landing Net and Hook, or you may lose many a large Fish, by breaking Line or hold, before you can land him. The Net you may fasten to the end of a long manageable Pole: As for the Hook it must be a large one

with

with a Screw, to ſcrew into a Socket at the end of a Pole, and when your Fiſh is entangled, clap it into the Mouth of it, and draw it to Land, but this latter is chiefly for *Barbel*, *Salmon*, and other ſtrong Fiſh.

As for your Pannier, let it be of light Oſier twigs, neatly Woven and Worked up, and to be the more compleatly prepared on all occaſions, have in a readineſs divers ſorts of Hooks, Lines, Links ready twiſted, Hair and Silk of ſeveral colours, ſmall ſtrong Thread, Lead Plummets, Shoemakers Wax, and Floats of divers ſizes; Line Caſes, Whet-ſtone, Pen knife, Worm bags, Boxes, Baits, Sciſſars. And thus having pretty well accoutred my Angler with Tackle, it will next be neceſſary to know what Baits he muſt uſe

uſe, for on it mainly depends ſucceſs or fruſtration.

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## *Baits bred on Trees, Herbs, Plants, Worms, their ſeaſon, and what Fiſh take them, when and how, &c.*

BAits for the ſundry kinds of Fiſh are numerous, and many of them muſt be conſidered in their proper Seaſon, or they are of no value; as for Earth-worms, they are accounted a general Bait, they and Gentles are always in Seaſon, Earth-Bobs only from *Martlemas*, till the latter end of *April*, Cowturd Bobs from thence till *Michelmas*, Oak worms, Worms bred of Trees, Plants and Herbs, Palmers,

Palmers, or Wool-beds, Flies, Caterpillars, Cod baits, &c. all the Summer, and here it is requisite to note, that when one sort of Bait comes in Season, the other are not useless. If you are to Angle in Clear Water at the ground, it will be necessary to have with you Cod-baits, Worms, Gentles and Bobs, to try which will best take, but in Muddy Water for *Trouts*, with the running Line, you are required for better sport, to have Tag-tailes, Gilt-tails, Brandlings, Meadow-worms, some scowered in Moss and Water, others directed with a Riddle, and some again with heavy Earth, for almost at the same time they will take them, some one way done, and some another, as Experience has often demonstrated.

But

But to come nearer, and ſhew you what your Baits are, how ſhaped, and to be choſen.

1. The Garden-worm, Lob-worm, or Treacbet and Dew-worm, are one and the ſame, though in divers places their names thus alter, and this Worm one of the greateſt ſize, is an Excellent Bait for *Chevin, Salmon, Barbel* or *Eel*, though the ſmaller of the ſame kind, are not much affected with them: That with a broad Tail, a red Head, and ſtreak down the Back is the beſt, they are found in the latter end of the Summer in the Evening, in Gardens, Church-yards, and may be driven out of the Earth, with the Juice of Walnut-tree Leaves, and Water poured on their holes.

2. Marſh

2. Marſh or Meadow-worms are found in Marſhy ground, or on banks of Rivers in Fertile Mould, being ſomewhat blewiſh, and being well ſcoured it will be tough and lively, and is a very good Bait, eſpecially in *March*, *April* and *September*, for *Pearch*, *Flounder*, *Bream*, *Smelts*, *Gudgeon*, *Salmon*, *Trout*, *Grayling*, though many and not without ſucceſs, uſe from *Candlemas* to *Michaelmas*, and in Moſs and Water it may be kept fifteen days before uſe.

3. Brandlings, Red-worms, and Gilt-tails, are found in old Dunghills, rotten Earth, Cow-dung, Hogs-dung, or Tanners Bark where it is uſed and caſt by. The Brandling and Gilt-tail, are eſpecially good for taking *Pearch*, *Tench*, *Bream*, *Salmon*, *Gudgeons*, *Smelts*, they are taken by *Trout* and *Grayling*,

*Grayling* in Muddy or Clear Water, and the Red-worms well scoured, are taken by *Tench*, *Pearch* and *Bream*, and best in Muddy Water.

4. The Worm called Tag-tail, is of a flesh colour, having at his Tail a yellow Tag near half an Inch long, found in Meadows after a shower of Rain, or in Chalky ground in *March* and *April*, if the Weather be temperate; this is held an extraordinary good Bait for a *Trout* in cloudy Water, and a little scouring will serve it.

5. The Palmer-fly, Palmer-worm, Wood-bed and Cankers, are accounted one and the same, being bred on Herbs, Trees, and Plants, not being properly a Caterpiller, yet the shape of one, being in the outward parts Rough and Wooley, being excellent Baits for the *Chub*, *Grayling*,

*Grayling*, *Trout*, *Dace*, or *Roach*. The Palmer-fly and May-fly are held the foundation of Fly-Angling, and have usually good success.

6. The Oak-worm, Caterpillars, Cabbage-worm, Crabtree-worm, or Jack, Colewort-worm, or Grub, may be long kept with the Leaves of those Trees or Plants, that breed them in Boxes with holes for Air, or in Withey Bark. They take *Chub*, *Roach*, *Dace* and *Trout*, the Oak-worm being preferrable to any bred on Trees or Plants, being the best taken on the top of the Water, though you may go as deep as you will with them; to get these, search the Colewort or Cabbage Leaves, beat the Oak, Crabtree, or Haw-thorn, some of them are hard and tough, others smooth and soft, some horned-tailed,

others

others have them on the heads, some smooth, other hairy.

7. Bobs of these, there are two sorts, they are found in Sandy or Mellow ground, especially after Plowing: The one is one is called the Earth Bob White Grub, or White Bait being much bigger than Gentle, having a Red head the Body soft, and full of white Guts, the other is lesser, and somewhat blewish, found many times in digging on Heaths they are excellent Baits till after *Mid-April* to the first of *November*, to take *Tench*, *Bream*, *Trout*, *Chub*, *Roach*, *Smelts*, *Salmon*, *Dace* and *Carp*, they must be kept in an Earthen Vessel, with the Earth you find them in, covered very close to keep out the Cold and Wind, some boil them about two minutes in

Milk

ilk before they uſe them, which makes them tougher and whiter, others dip them in Honey or Gum-Ivy for *Carp*, *Bream*, and both ways prove ſucceſsful.

8. Gentles or Muggots, may be kept with Fleſh, and ſcoured well with Wheat-Bran, they are eaſie to be had, or bred by Putrefaction. Theſe are ſometimes added to a Worm on the Hook, ſometimes to a Dubb, and ſo take *Salmon Smelts*, but oftner uſed by themſelves two or three on a hook; the day before you Angle, put them into a Box with Gum-Ivy and it will prove ſucceſsful to your ſport, they are good Baits for *Tench*, *Barbel*, *Bream*, *Bleak*, *Gudgeon*, *Trout*, *Dace*, *Chub*, *Carp*.

9. Flag-worms, or Dock-worms are the ſame, found among Flags, in old Pits or

Ponds, *viz* The ſmall Fib
of the Flag roots, by open
little husks, it is Pale, Yello
or White, longer and ſlende
than a Gentle, and theſe m
be kept in Bran, and are go
Baits for *Bream*, *Tench* *Ro*
*Carp*, *Dace*, *Bleak* and *Pe*
when you fiſh with it for
*Grayling*, uſe the ſmalleſt L
and the Float, and Fiſh nine
ten Inches from the ground.

10. The Bark-worm, or A
Grub, are all one, being v
full and white, bent round fi
the Tail to the Head, the He
being red, and the parts v
tender, reſembling a you
Dorr or Humble-Bee, and
be uſed all the year, but pa
cularly from *Michaelmas* to
middle of *May* or *June*, and
cept the Fly and Cod-bai
the beſt for *Grayling*, *D*
*Roach* and *Chub*, it is found
ua

der the Bark of an Oak, Ash,
der, or Beech; especially
when fell'd, and they have lain
cout a year, or in the hollow
f these Trees when standing,
where doated or rotted; it is a
ery tender bait, and best on
briſtled Hook, by running the
ook in at the Head, and up the
elly, till it stays on the briſtle,
nd no part of the hooks point
ppears out of it; they are kept
ell in Wheat-Bran, and take
e *Grayling* with the smalleſt
ne: Angle with the Float,
eeping the Bait seven or eight
ches from the bottom; but if
u fish with it for *Roach*, *Chub*,
*Dace*, use Indifferent Tackle.
14. There is a Bob found un-
r a Cow-turd, called the
w-turd Bob, from the begin-
ng of *May* to *March*, some
l it a Clap Bait, this is like a
ntle, but bigger; you may

keep it ſometime in Moſs, but the beſt is to keep it in Earth dug up under the place where you find it; it is a very good bait for *Trout*, if you Angle with it on a briſtled hook, on the top of the Water, and in the Water it is taken by *Chub*, *Carp*, *Bream*, *Tench*, *Dace* and *Roach*.

12. The Cod-bait, Cad-bait, Cadiſsworm, or Caſeworm, are one and the ſame Bait, though of three ſorts. The one is found under Stones that lie looſe and hollow in ſmall Brooks, ſhallow Rivers, or very fine Gravel, in a Caſe or Husk, and when fit for purpoſe, they are yellow; they are bigger than Gentle, having a Black or Blewiſh head; another ſort is found in Pits, Ponds, ſlow running Rivers, Ditches, in Caſes or Husks of Ruſhes, Water weeds

weeds, Straw, *&c.* and are by ſome called Ruff-coats, or Straw-worms; theſe are accounted Principal Baits for *Bleak*, *Salmon-ſmelts*, *Tench*, *Bream*, *Chub*, *Trout*, *Grayling*, *Dace*. The next is a green ſort, found in Pits, Ponds or Ditches, in *March*; coming before the yellow ones, for they are not in ſeaſon 'till the end of *April*, and in *July* are out of ſeaſon; the third ſort is proper in *Auguſt*, being ſmaller than the other. Theſe muſt be kept tender in Woollen bags, when you carry them for uſe, but to keep them long alive, put in a green Withey Bark, taken off and hollowed like a Trunk, lay it in the Dew a night to moiſten it.

## *Natural Flies for Bait, their Seasons, and where to be found, for what Fish they are proper, &c.*

1. THE Ant-flies are found in their Hills, about the end of *June*, *July*, *August*, and most part of *September*, with the Earth you take with them, that may be kept in Glass Bottles; two or three of these fixed on the small hook, are certain Baits for *Chub*, *Roach* and *Dace* if you Angle under Water not above six Inches from the bottom.

2. The brood of Humble Bees, Hornets and Wasps, are good Baits, dry them over a Fire, or in an Oven, so not being over done, they will last long

ng, and ſit handſomely on the look, to take *Chub*, *Eel*, *Bream*, *Flounders*, *Roach* or *Dace*, ſome oil them, but then they will ot keep long, Hornets, Waſps, nd Humble-Bees may be uſed live, when their Wings are a t le grown, and their Legs hort, eſpecially for the *Chub*, s alſo the Black-Bee breeding n Clay Walls.

3. The Fern-Fly or Fern-ud, is found among Fern from *May-day* to the end of *Auguſt*, it s thick and ſhort of Body, has wo pair of Wings, the upper-moſt reddiſh and hard, which ay be taken off, the laſt ten ays of *May* the *Trout* will take t every day, and the *Chub* re-uſes it no part of the Sum-mer.

4. The Stone-fly and Green-drake. The firſt of theſe is found under hollow ſtones at Ri-

ver sides: The Body of it is pretty thick, and almost as broad at the Tail as in the middle, it is of a curious brown colour, streaked a little with yellow on the back, but much more on the Belly; he uses much the Water, and seldom flies though he has large Wings that double on his back, he comes in about *April*, and continues till about the end of *June*, and is a very killing fly of *Roach*, *Dace* and *Bleak*, and the Green-Drake has his Wings standing high like a Butter-fly, and his motion in flying the same, the body is in some of a Pale, in others of a darker Yellow, Ribbed with Rows of Green, long and slender, his Tail turns up to his back, having three long whisks at the end of it, he comes in about the middle of *May*, and continues till *Mid-summer*

*summer*, and is found by ſtoney Rivers, with this Bait for *Flounders*, *Dace*, *Bleak*, *Roach* and *Pearch*.

5. The great Moth that has a conſiderable big head with whitiſh Wings, is to be found in Summer Evenings in Gardens, on Trees, and Plants, it ſpeedily takes *Chub* if you dibble with it.

6. The Hawthorn-fly is black, found frequently on Hawthorn-trees, when the Leaves are put out, the beſt uſe this can be put to, is to Dibb in a River for *Trout*.

7. The Aſh-fly, Wood-cock-fly or Oak-fly is the ſame, under different names, and holds good from the beginning of *May* to the end of *Auguſt*, its of brownish colour, and uſually found in the body of an Oak, or Aſh, ſtanding with his head down-

wards towards the Root of the Tree, and is a very good Bait for a *Trout*. And to make speedy work, put it long ways on the hook, and at the point a Cod bait, and let them sink six Inches or a foot into the Water, raise it gently, and having a short dibbing Line, you need not fear *Trouts* in clear Water, and instead of a Cod-bait, if you have it not, you may use an Oak-worm, or Green-Grub, you may dub this, or make it Artificially with Isabella, coloured Mohair, and bright brown Bears-hair, wrapped on yellow Silk. These being the Principal Flies, used in Angling, I now come to mixed Baits of another Nature.

## *Miſcellanea of Baits very Taking, and much in uſe.*

1. *Almon* Spawn boiled, and ſaſtned on the Hook, is a very good Bait for *Chub*, and in ſome Rivers for *Trout*, it being advantageous to the Angler, eſpecially in Winter and Spring, if he keeps it ſalted; eſpecially in places where *Salmon* uſed to Spawn, for thither the Fiſh gather to expect it.

2. Graſhoppers the latter end of *June*, all *July*, and *Auguſt* if their Legs and outward Wing be taken off; eſpecially for *Roach*, *Trout* and *Grayling*, and here you may put a ſlender plate of Lead on the ſhank of your hook, ſlendereſt at the bent, then draw your Graſhop

pe

per over it, after put a leſſer Graſhopper, or God-bait at the point, and keep it moving, lifting up and ſinking again, a *Chub* will alſo take the Bait freely, and ſo will a *Trout* if you dib with it.

The Water-Cricket, Water Louſe or Creeper is but one, theſe take *Trout* in *March* and *April*, and ſometimes in *May*, if you Angle at the River: it is to be Angled with in Clear Water, within a foot of the bottom, ſome let it drag on the ground. This Creeper is bred in Stoney Rivers, and held to turn into a Stone-fly about the middle of *May*, that Fly not being any where ſeen before.

Lamery Pride, or Seaven, is a very good Bait for *Chub* and *Eels*, Night or Day, this is no other than little live things like ſmall *Eels*, no thicker than a Straw,

Straw, and are to be found in Sandy Muddy heaps, near to the Shoar in Rivers.

Snails, the Black and White are good Baits for *Chub*, very early in the Morning, *Trout* and *Eels* take them on Night hooks, but the Bellies of the black may be slit, so that the white may appear, some dib for *Chub* with House-Crickets.

For *Chub*, *Barbel*, *Roach* and *Dace* you may Angle with Cheese, or Oat Cake, especially at the Ledger Bait, the Cheese you may wrap up two or three days in a wet Linnen Cloath, or moisten it over with Honey and Water.

Black-berries, Mul-berries, Cherries, or Rasberries take the *Chub* in Ponds or Rivers, Lip-berries, or Arun-berries, being when ripe, of a transparent red, found in dry Ditches,

or

or dry Banks, fit for use in *July* and *August*, two of these on a hook will take a *Roach*, and four a *Chub*.

As for the *Pike* he is a greedy Devourer, and therefore mostly delights in Fish, Frogs, *&c.* therefore your Baits for him must be small *Dace*, *Minows*, *Roach*, *Salmon Smelt*, *Gudgeon*, *Bleak*, *Millers-thumb*, small *Pearch* with the back fins cut off, also *Trout* and *Eels* well scowred in Wheat-Bran, to take away the Slime; and indeed most sort of small Fish he takes, and how you are to manage them on your hook, I shall tell you when I come to treat of the taking him in the River of *Thames*. Periwinckle, a kind of Water-Snail, is much used for *Roach*, being taken whole out of its Shell; Shrimps taken out of their Husk or Shell, may be used as a Bait for *Pike* or

*Chub*.

*Chub.* The *White-bl'te* with much Seed, by ſome called *All-ſeed*, is a proper Bait for Fiſh.

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## *Paſtes proper for the Angler.*

PAſtes are of ſeveral kinds, though tending to one and the ſame end, for a *Chub* or *Chevin*, make a Paſte of the fatteſt Old Cheeſe, the Suet of a Mutton Kidney, a little ſtrong Runnet, mix them equally and finely together, then put as much Powder of Turmerick, as will give them a fine Yellow Colour.

For *Roach* and *Dace*, Grate fine Bread into a little fair Water, wherein Gum-Ivy has been ſoaked. For the *Barbel* in *Auguſt*, make a Paſte of New Cheeſe

Cheese and Mutton Suet. For *Roach* or *Dace*, you may put a little Butter to your Crumb-bait, and Colour it with Saffron. For *Carp* or *Tench*, mix crumbs of Bread with Hony, though for a *Carp* I reckon this the surest.

Take Bean Flower, or for want of it Wheat-flower, the inside of the Leg of a young Rabbit, Catlin, or Whelp, white Bees-wax, and Sheeps Suet, proportionable, beat them in a Morter till well Incorporated, then moisten the Mass with clarified Honey, and work it up into little Balls, before a gentle fire.

The *Chub* in Winter takes a Paste made of strong Cheshire Cheese, beaten with Butter and Saffron till it become a Lemon colour.

Stoned

Stoned Cherries, fine grated Manchet, Sheeps Blood and Saffron make a good Paste for *Roach*, *Dace*, *Bleak*, *Chub*, *Trout*, *Pearch*, and for the *Chub* only put a little Rusty Bacon in it.

Another excellent Paste is made of the fattest Old Cheese, Mutton Kidney-Suet, strong Rennet, Anniseed Water, Wheat Flower, and the dripping of Rusty Bacon held against the Fire.

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## *What is to be observed in Angling with Pasts.*

1. YOU must proportion the quantity of your Paste you put on your hook, to the smallness or largeness of the Fish you Angle for, as in other Baits.

2. You

2. You may try Oils upon any of these Pasts, and as you see your success, so continue the one, or the other, and the best for this purpose are Oil of Polipody of the Oak, Oil of Petre, Oil of Ivy, and as properly Gum of Ivy, and Assafœtida.

3. To strengthen any Past, and so prevent its washing off the Hook, it will not be amiss to beat a small quantity of fine Flax cut short, Cotton Wool, or fine Lint among them, which will prove very binding, those that you would have keep long, put a little White Bees-wax into them, and anoint them with clarified Honey, the latter you may wipe off, when you use occasion.

4. Paste, or tender Baits must not be Angled with, in Rapid Streams, but on a small hook

hook in Pits, Ponds, Meers, or slow Running Rivers; your Eye in this sort of Angling must be quick, your Rod somewhat stiff, and a nimble hand to pull up, or else the Bait and Fish will quickly bid you farewell. This is better done with a Quill float than a Cork, which sooner shews the Nibble or Bite, and if you then be not very quick, your labour is lost, and with these Pasts, success is usually had for *Bream, Bleak, Chub, Roach, Dace, Carp, Tench, Barbel.*

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## *Oils and Ointments useful in Angling.*

TAke Oil of Ivy-berries, anoint the inside of an Oaken Box with it, and put three or four Worms, or other live Baits

Baits into the Box, ſhutting it close, but keep them not there too long, leaſt the ſtrength of the Oil kill them, but take them out and put in more, and ſo they being ſcented with the Oil, it will allure the Fiſh the more readily to take them. This may be done in the ſame manner for want of Oil, with Gum-Ivy, which is a Tear that flows out of the Ivy Stalks, when ſlit, or wounded by peircing.

Oil of Spike and diſſolved Gum-Ivy, are held to be much attracting, the Bait being anointed with them.

Oil of Polypodi, of the Oak, Venice Turpentine, and new Honey is very good, if eight Inches of the Line next the Hook, be anointed with it; but then there muſt be two or three Hairs, for it will not well ſtick

to

to a single one, however do not clog your Line with it.

Chimical Oil of Lavender, or for want of it, Oil of Spike six drops, three Drams of Assafœtida, *Venice* Turpentine, one Dram, Camphire one Dram, make these into an Ointment, and anoint your Line, as the former, this in Clear Water wonderful takes *Gudgeons*.

Man's Fat, and the Fat of the Thigh-bone of a Heron, makes an Ointment that rarely fails, and is esteemed by those that have tried it, the best of any, being a new Experiment.

But let me commend to you above others this, take the Oils of Chamomile, Lavender, Anniseed, each a quarter of an Ounce, Man's Fat, Heron's Grease, and Cats Grease, and the best Assafœtida, each two Drams, two Scruples of Cummin

min ſeed, finely beaten to Pow-
der, *Venice* Turpentine, Cam-
phir and Galbanum, of each
Dram, add two Grains of Ci-
vet, and make them into an Un-
guent; this muſt be kept cl.ſe
in a glazed Earthen Pot, or it
loſes much of its vertue, anoint
your Line with it as before, and
your expectation will be ſtrange-
ly anſwered.

Oil of Aſper ſo much noiſed
about, and ſaid to be Extracted
from a Fowl called the *Oſprey*, is
now found to be a mixture of the
Oils of Spike, Lavender, and re-
fined Oil of Turpentine, which
however has a conſiderable ef-
fect in Still, or ſlow moving
Waters, and obſerve in this caſe,
your Line muſt be anointed eve-
ry ſecond drawing up, or the
ſtrength of the ſcent being waſh-
ed off, you may expect your
ſport to ceaſe.

I

I might now speak something of Artificial Flies, and other Artificial Baits, but not to keep the Angler too long from the Water, I shall have occasion elsewhere to treat of them.

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## *Fishes Haunts proper to be known.*

IF you are not certain of any Waters to Fish in, your business is to try the most likely and promising, *viz.*

Where Trees fallen, Wood, Rushes, Weeds, or Rubbish are in Rivers, or likely large Ponds, there are store of Fish promised, for thither they resort for warmth and shelter, but it is very troublesome Angling there.

The

The next are Weirs, Weir-Pools, Mill Streams, Flood-gates, Piles, Posts, Pillars of Bridges, Cataracts and Water-falls, Eddies, Whirling Pits, the side of a Stream in the Summer especially, for then they love to bask and lye shallow, unless the Weather be excessive hot; tho I may herein except *Carp*, *Eel* and *Tench*, in the Winter, find for the generallity the deep as the warmest, in a gentle Ebb and Flow, by the beating of the Waters, at any turning or opposing Bank, there is good biting, so that strait Rivers are not so advantagious to Angle in, as those that are Winding or Crooked, having Eddies, Pits, and Pools in them, occasioned by the Waters beating on the Points and Doublings, and thence being forced back, and into those Pits and Creeks, the Fish will

will get in ſome conſiderable numbers many times, where the Water is narrow, try both ſides; but to come ſomewhat nearer.

The *Salmon* is found in large ſwift Rivers, that Ebb and Flow, Gravelly and Craggy. The *Trout* moſtly in purling Brooks and Rivers that are ſomewhat ſwift, and have Sandy bottoms. The *Carp* and *Tench* love Still Waters, or ſuch as gently move, where Weeds or Roots of Trees are near to ſhelter them on occaſion. *Eels* generally covet Muddy Rivers, Ponds, or Slimy Mud, eſpecially thoſe of the larger ſize. The *Pike*, *Bream* and *Chub*, are moſtly found in Sandy or Clay Rivers, Brooks or Ponds, wherein Buſhes, Bulruſhes, or Flags grow. The *Barbel*, *Roach*, *Dace* and *Ruff*, for the moſt are found in Sandy or

Gravelly deep Rivers, coveting to be under the ſhade of Trees. The *Umber* is likelieſt to be found in Marley or Clayey Streams, running very ſwift. The *Gudgeon* likes beſt a Sandy or Gravelly bottom; yet for all this, a trial of divers Waters will not be amiſs, where you may ſuſpect any Fiſh are likely to breed; for Experience in this Art is the ſureſt Inſtructor.

## imes proper above others to Angle in, according to the Water, Weather, &c.

IN the hotteſt Months, take your opportunity when it Cloudy, and the Water is mo- d by gentle gales.

2. When the Floods have car- ed away the filth, ſudden owers incumber the Waters ith, and the Rivers, &c. re- in their uſual bounds, looking a paliſh colour.

3. When a violent ſhower Muddied or Troubled the ater, and after that the ſtream ns ſwift, for then they uſual- ſeek for Creeks, and Shelter, d in the little Rivulets run- ng into the great one.

4. If you Fiſh for Carp or rb, do it early in the Morn-

ing, *viz.* a little before Sun-ri
till eight, and from four in t
Afternoon, till Sun set, wh
the days are of a convenie
length, *June*, *July*, and *Aug*
but in *March*, the beginning
*April*, and end of *Septemb*
they refuse not to bite in t
warmth of the day, the Wi
being still.

5. If you Angle for the *S*
*mon*, the best time is from thr
in the Afternoon till Sun s
and in the Morning as bef
his proper Months are *May*, *Ju*
*July* and *August*. The *Bar*
bites best in *May*, *June*, *July* a
the beginning of *August*, fro
five to eleven in the Morni
The *Pearch* and *Ruff* all day
very Cool and Cloudy Weathe
The *Bream* bites from Sun-r
till nine or ten in the Morni
in Muddy Water, especia
when the Wind blows hard, s
th

he moſt part keeping in the middle of the River or Pond in *May*, *June*, *July* or *Auguſt*.

6. The *Pike* Bites in *July*, *Auguſt*, *September* and *October*, about three in the Afternoon in gentle Water, and a clear Gale. In Winter he Bites all the Day long, and in *April*, *May*, and the beginning of *June*, early in the Morning, and late in the Evening. As for *Roach* and *Dace*, they Bite all the Day long, if the Weather be not in the extremities of Heat or Cold, on the top of the Water. The *Gudgeon* Bites beſt in *April*, and till he has ſpawned in *May*, and if the Weather be Cool, till Waſp time, and at the end of the year all day long in a gentle ſtream; obſerve when you Angle for him, to ſtir and rake the ground, and he will Bite the better. As for the *Flounder* though

he is found only in Ebbing
Flowing Rivers, that have C
munication with the Sea,
Bites freely all day in *April*,
*June* and *July*, in a ſwift ſtre
he will Bite in the Still, but
near ſo freely.

---

*Ground Baits to gather*
*feed the Fiſh, that you*
*better, and readily kn*
*where to find them, &*

THE Ground Baits, or
baiting the Ground,
Barly or Wheat ſoft boil
which for prevention of ſcatt
ing, you may mix with ſo
pleaſant freſh Earth, Ale-gra
Wheat Bran ſteeped in ſhee
blood, blood clotted, dried a
cut in ſmall pieces, Periwink
bruiſ

bruiſed in their Shells, black and white Snails, Worms cut in ſunder, and made up in little Balls of Earth. The Guts of Fowl, the ſmall Guts or Livers cut ſmall, Old Cheeſe and Oat-Cakes, bruiſed together, Malt groſly ground, theſe eſpecially gather *Tench*, *Dace*, *Carp*, *Chub*, *Roach*, *Bream* and *Barbel*, and the more you feed them, they will be the ſurer to keep to that place, and be the fatter to reward your pains when taken, and theſe throw in a little above the place you Angle at, if it be a moving water, for before they ground, the ſtream will carry them ſome diſtance from the place you throw at.

Theſe are eſpecially good when you Angle with the Cod-bait, Gentle, Waſp, or Paſte, for it will make them take your Bait more eagerly, and with leſs

ſuſpition. And this directs you to the *Pike* or *Pearch*, for if thoſe Fiſh you Angle for be not there, and neither others have circumvented you, nor the ſeaſon improper, then are theſe two devourers of Fiſh, lurking thereabout, and the reſt dare not approach for fear of being made a Prey, therefore uſe ſuitable Tackle and Baits to take them, and then other Fiſh will boldly approach.

When you Angle in Clear Water, keep out of ſight as much as may be, ſheltered behind ſome Buſh or Tree, or by ſtanding as far off as poſſible, keeping your Eye only on the ſurface of the Water where your Float is, and to effect this the better, your Rod muſt be proportionable in length, to anſwer the place you Fiſh at, and eſpecially at the ground,

and

and a long Rod and Line at Artificial Flies are very neceſſary, an Angler muſt add Silence to his Patience, and move his Body as little as poſſible may be, for the Fiſh are very quick-ſighted, and naturally fearful, particularly the *Chub*, *Carp* and *Trout*.

When in a Clear Water you Angle at the Ground, or with a Natural Fly Dibble, always do it going up the River, but in Muddy Water, or when you do it with a Dub-fly uſe the contrary; if you have hooked a Fiſh, and ſuſpect the ſtrength of your Line or Rod, let him Play and Tire within the Water, before you offer to bring him near the top, be ſure to keep the Rod bent, leaſt running to the end of the Line, he break his hold, or the hook, and if he be tired, and have in a manner done

fluttering, bring him toward the top, and if there be occasion use your Landing Net or Hook and take this for a general rule in hooking all strong Fish.

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## *How to take the* Salmon *and* Salmon Smelt, *by Angling*, &c.

THE *Salmon* though not found in many Rivers in *England*, is of Principal note for River Fish, though it as well belongs to the Sea. The chief Rivers noted for them are the *Thames*, *Severn*, *Trent*, *Lon* at *Lancaster*, and about *Cockersand-Abby* at *Workinton* in *Cumberland*, *Bywell* in *Northumberland*, *Durham*, *Newcastle* on *Tine*, Dee in *Cheshire*, and

and some Rivers in *Wales*, as *Usk*, *Wye* and *Tivy*; he commonly is found in the Water deep, and about the middle.

His best Biting is Nine in the Forenoon, and Three in the Afternoon in Clear Water, especially when the Wind blows against the stream, but not very roughly: Then take the Baits directed, and the strongest Tackle, for when he is struck, he plunges and leaps, though not usually does he endeavour to go to the end of the Line. The younger sort of these are so tender mouthed, that unless you fasten two Hooks almost in a quarter of a Circle asunder they usually break hold; for the great *Salmon*, the principal Bait is well scowered Dew-worms for the *Salmon-Smelts* the Brandling, Gilt-tail, Meadow-worm &c. and for Flies he takes them

Natural

Natural or Artificial, and if you uſe theſe, a Cod-Bait or Gentle at the top of the Hook is effectual, this with the Dub-fly takes *Salmon-Smelts* beyond Expectation, but for a greater *Salmon*, if your Fly be Artificial, make it very large with ſix Wings one behind another, that by that & the different colours, he may ſuppoſe it, as indeed it will appear in the Water, a Cluſter of Flies. He is taken at the Ground with a running Line or Float, and ſometimes he Bites lower than Mid-water at Ground-Baits; he is taken with Oak-Worms, Dub-flies, Cod-baits, Clap-baits, and the larger ſort ſometimes take the Minow and Loach, and for theſe You may Angle with a Wyer Ring on the top of the Rod, letting the Line run through it to a great length, and when he's

he's hooked, and is ſpent with plunging, fix your Land hook in his Mouth, that is ſcrewed to the end of a Pole, as directed, to land him.

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## *Several ways to take the* Pike, *and where to find his haunts*, &c.

TO find this Greedy Fiſh, you muſt Caſt in Sandy, Chalkey, or Clayey places, ſomewhat near the Banks, for he

he coveting ſolitude, often lurks in holes to ſurprize other Fiſh as they fearleſsly ſwim by, ſometimes he ſhelters among Bulruſhes, Water-Docks, Weeds or Buſhes, and then he Bites about the middle of the River, or Pond, at Mid-water, and for him you muſt keep your Bait in a gentle motion, and at all times to be above a foot from the Ground; he rarely Bites in the Night, for then he is for the moſt part gone to reſt in his retirement. In *April*, *May*, *June*, and the beginning of *July*, he does it moſt freely Morning and Evening in Clear Water, and a gentle gale in Still Water, or a moderately moving one, and in the reſt of *July*, *Auguſt*, *September* and *October*, his beſt Biting time is about Three in the Afternoon, in Water as before in Winter Months, if the Weather

ther be pleasing, and the Water Clear, he will not refuse to Bite at any time, though the most certain time is about Three of the Clock in the Afternoon, if particularly in a gloomy, cloudy day, but the Water Muddied with Rains, there is no certainty of him, his beloved Baits are *Gudgeon*, *Roach*, *Dace*, *Minows*, *Salmon-Smelts* no bigger than *Gudgeons*, very small *Pikes*; in the Winter Months a piece of an *Eel*, Fat Bacon, a young *Trout* or *Pearch*, if the Pricks be cut off the back, *&c.* but all his Baits must be very fresh, and a live one tempts him much the sooner, which may be put on by drawing the Line between the Skin and the Ribs of the Fish, and so on the Hook, fastening it in the Gills, and this you may use in Trowling, but here have your Tackle very strong,

with

with Wyre about a foot from your Hook, that next to it Silk, & the reſt of the Line ſtrong ſpun Flax, come as little as you can near the Weeds, leaſt they ſpoil your Bait before the Pike comes at it, faſten the Tail of the Bait to the Joint of the Wire, and having fixed your Tackle, that the Line may Run and Play, let ſo much Lead be at the Hook, as may carry the Fiſh's Head downward, as if after Playing on the top, ſhe was going to the bottom, and when you have ſunk it ſo, that it is at a convenient depth for the *Pike*, ſlack your Line, and give it ſcope, that he may run to his hold, and there pouch or ſwallow it, which you may know by the moving of the Line in the Water, then with a ſmart Jerk, hook him, ſome uſe no Rod with this, but Lead and Float, holding the

Line

Line in their hands on Links, and indeed there are ſeveral methods taken, though all to the ſame purpoſe, wherefore for brevities ſake I omit them.

Angling for him at the Snap, is to give him leave to run a little, and then ſtrike, which muſt be done the contrary way to that which he moveth, therefore a double ſpring-hook is uſeful in this way of Angling eſpecially, for great *Pike* uſually will hold the Bait ſo faſt in his Teeth, that you may fail to pull it out of his Mouth, and likewiſe ſtrike him, when if he holds the ſpring hook never ſo faſt, the Wire will draw through the Bait, and ſo the ſpring opening you will frequently hook him on the outſide of his mouth, though Trowling is ſurer than this, and more practicable, yet this

this is best used in *March*, when the *Pike* Bites ill, then upon Spawning they are Sick and lose their Stomachs, bait this as the former, and he may be taken this way, when he is so.

## *Other Brief Rules for* Pike *Angling.*

1. WHen the *Pike* has taken your Bait, observe how he moves, if slowly, give him time and you will rarely miss him; let not your Bait fall in one and the same place above once or twice, for if he take it not, then he is farther off.

2. If you find after he has taken the Bait, he lies still, as sometimes

ſometimes he will, move your hand gently, to get notice which way his Head lies, leaſt in ſtriking you happen to pull the Bait out of his Mouth, if that cannot be diſcerned, ſtrike directly upward: At the Snap have ſtrong Tackle, and give two luſtly Jerks quickly one after another, faſtening a Swivel at the end of your Line, which muſt be uſed at Trowl and Snap, and your Armed Wire muſt be hooked on it.

3. For the Snap, have a hollow piece of Lead, that it may paſs over the Wire, and End of the Hook, which you draw within the Fiſhes Gills or Mouth, that as directed it may keep the Head downwards, and at either of theſe baitings, if you cut away one of the Fins of the Bait cloſe at the Gills, alſo behind the vent, and one on the contrary

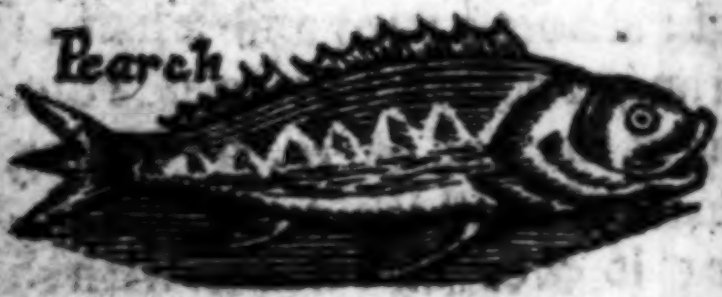
trary ſide, it will play the better, and ſeem more lively.

4. Be ſure to raiſe your hand in Caſting, when the Bait is about to fall into the Water, ſo that by daſhing it may not fright him away, and when it is ſunk a little, draw it near the top towards you a little, and ſo let it fall again; and if your Wire Hook is joined with a Steel Ring, the Bait will play better, and ſink more direct; for Snap, *March* is the chief Month, *February*, *April*, *May*, *September* and *October* for the Trowl, and though a large Bait invites him moſt, yet a leſſer takes him more ſurely, yet let your Bait be ſutable to your Hook; and this way with a *Minow*, *Loach* or ſmall *Gudgeon*, you may take *Pearch*, and if poſſible always Trowl in Clear Water in a Windy Day, and then

then a *Gudgeon* will do well for the *Pike*, but if a Dark, Cloudy Day, *Roach*, *Dace* or *Bleak*, are to be preferred.

To ſnare a *Pike*, when you perceive him riſe, and ſtaying near the Surface of the Water, faſten about a yard and a half of ſtrong Pack-thread to a Pole, and at the end of it, a running Nooſe of ſmall Wire, ſoftly putting it over his Head, with a quick Jerk throw him to Land; this is often done to Young *Pikes*, but the older are more wary, though ſometimes catched by this means, eſpecially in Ponds, as alſo when they come out of Rivers, and go a frogging in Ditches, in *May*, *June* and *July*.

## *To Find and Angle for* Pearch.




THis Fiſh delights in a good Stream, of a moderate depth, abiding uſually cloſe by a hollow Bank, Pebbly, Gravelly bottomed, with Green Weeds growing in it, being commonly a River Fiſh, he bites little in Winter, but in the middle of the Day, yet in Summer all Day if the Weather be Cool and Cloudy, and the Water

er ſhaken with the Wind, but more freely from Seven till Ten in the Morning, and from Two in the Afternoon till Six, and ſometimes till Sun ſet, if in the middle of Summer, you muſt look to him when he is ſtruck, for he's a very ſtrong Fiſh, and will ſtruggle hard, and long; they generally go many together, and if there be a great many in a hole, if you light right on them, you may at one ſtanding, catch the greater part, if you give them time to Bite; for if you are too haſty in ſtriking, you may chance to miſs your Aim, he takes almoſt all manner of Worms, as Dew-Worms, Red-Worms, Meadow-Worms, Cod-baits, alſo the *Minow*, *Loach*, ſmall Frog, Waſps, Hornets, and Humble-Bees.

He

He is beſt taken with a Float reſting the Bait about ſix Inches from the ground, and ſometimes he is taken about mid-water, ſome uſe a Ledger Bait on the ground, but the fifth depth has uſually the beſt ſucceſs.

## To Angle for the Carp, &c.

THis Fiſh has always been in great eſteem, and made many Induſtrious to find ways to take him. They delight in Sandy, or Muddy bottoms in ſtill, Deep Water, and in Green or Graſs growing under the Water, by the ſides of the Pond or River, though in a good Pond they thrive beſt; they are very wary, and hard to be catched; their firſt Spawning

time is about *May day*, b-eedi
three times a year, and wo
derfully increaſe if they like t
Water they are in, they li
long, though moſt diſagree
bout their particular number
Years, and indeed I ſee no re
ſon how he ſhould be exact
known.

They bite very early in *Apr*
*May*, *June*, *July* and *Aug*
and ſometimes all Night if t
Weather be hot, and ſtar ligh
in the Still deep Water, if y
Angle in the day time keep
of ſight as much as may be
therefore provide a long Ro
he is very ſtrong and muſt Pl
when ſtruck, or he'll carry
your Hook by breaking the Li
or Rod.

Uſe always the Float
Quill, Angle for him ſometi
abo

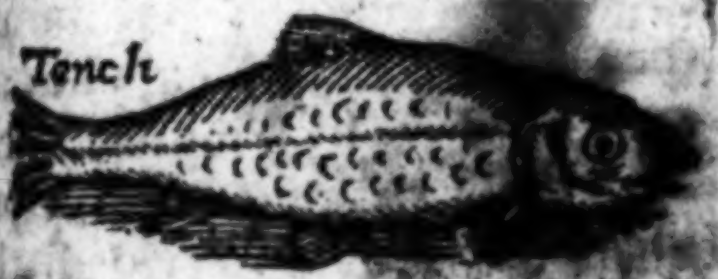
bove, and ſometimes below id-water, as the Weather is, ough in Mid-water he is the rtainlieſt taken, eſpecially in Pond, but in Rivers they are ry ſhy, lay a ground Bait for e *Carp* with ground Malt.

The Baits you uſe on your ook muſt be Gentles, two or ree on the Hook, then put a tle ſquare bit of Scarlet on e top of the Hook, above the it of Gentles, dipped in Oil the Rock, or Petre, this is ld an excellent Bait; they ke likewiſe Bobs, Waſps, weet Paiſts, Marſh-worms, lag-worms, Gilt-tails, Dew-orms, the Cod-bait and Bread-rain boiled ſoft; and in *June* nd *July*, in the heat of the ay, they ſhew themſelves on e top of the Water, and often- t among Weeds, then you

may take them with a we
ſcowred Lobworm, Angling
with a Natural Fly, but in t
caſe keep from their ſeeing yo
as much as poſſible you can;
*Carp* is a numerous breeder,
Spawning three or four times
year, therefore as a caution t
thoſe that ſtock Ponds wi
them, let them be warm and ſ
cure from Cold Winds, fenc
by Trees, and the place allo
ing good feed, for otherwi
the Pond being over ſtore
they will ſtarve themſelves, a
the other Fiſh that are put
with them.

*Obſervation*

## Observations on the Tench and the best way to Angle for him.




THE *Tench* is accounted a very good Fish, and much coveted, yet he takes delight in Muddy or Foul Water, and among Weeds, the Ponds that are suitable for *Carp*, please him better than the Rivers, and in Pits he thrives better than in either, if they be agreeable to time, though in some Pits they will

not, though they breed, co
to any bigness, and in some it
held they will not breed at all
but if any be put in they wi
thrive wonderfully; but this
believe may happen where th
Storer is not skilful to distin
guish Males from Females, bo
by an unlucky guess put in
of one sort, and though he co
vets Mud, yet his Fins are ver
large, and to know him from
others, there are two litt
Barbs at the Angles or Corner
of his Mouth, his Scales ar
small and smooth, and about hi
Eyes are Circles of a golde
colour, he is accounted the
Physitian to the rest, so that the
Devouring *Pike*, who being sick
is cured by him, will not, unless
great hunger provoke, hurt
or destroy him, though he spare
not his own kind. This Gift o
healing is said to be by a Med
cin

cinal Balm, ſweating from his Skin, which the Sick Fiſhes take in as Phyſick, and indeed his Fleſh is good in Conſumptions, (or any Languiſhing of the parts) for Men. They Bite beſt from as ſoon as it is Light, to Eight in the Morning, and from Four in the Afternoon, till a quarter after Sunſet, but in the hot Months, if the Weather be not Tempeſtuous, they many times Bite all Night, their beſt ſeaſon is, from the beginning of *September*, to the end of *May*, and about the beginning of *July* the *Tench* Spawns.

He takes the Cod-bait, Marſh-worm, Gentle, Flag-worm or Red-worm well ſcowred, and to make it take the better, you may dip your Bait in a little Tar Water juſt before you uſe it, though the plain Bait many

times

times pleaſes him well: For want of the former Baits, you may uſe Paſtes ſweetened with Honey, or Waſps.

Angle for him with a Fleat of Quill, letting the Bait into the Water two foot, ſometimes more or leſs, but no great matter.

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*The*

## The Bream his Haunts, and how to Angle for him.

THE *Bream* is a Large but Bony Fish, he is found in Rivers and Ponds, but in the latter if convenient, he delights best, he is long growing, and will be very fat, and is almost as great a Breeder as the *Carp*. The *Breams* swim divers together, especially in a gentle stream, they

Love a Sandy or Clayey bottom, and the deepeſt and broadeſt part of the Water, your beſt time in Seaſon, is to Angle for him from Sun-riſe to Eight a Clock in a moderate ſtream, the Water a little Slimy or Muddy, eſpecially when a good breeze troubles the Water, and in Windy Weather, if in a Pond, he generally keeps the middle, and there you are moſt likely to find him. In the Afternoon, your time is from Three or Four till Sun-ſet. But in a Darkiſh, Windy Day, he bites at any time.

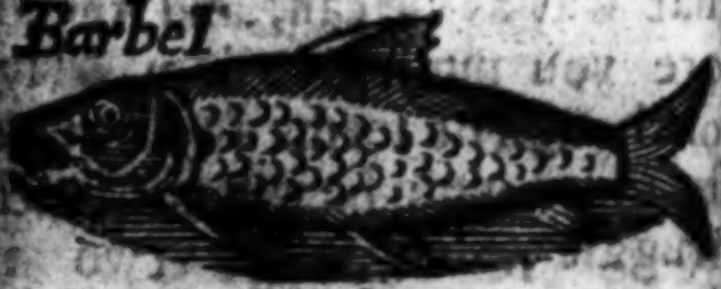
He is Angled for with much ſucceſs, from the beginning of *April* till *Michaelmas*, and may be taken at other times except the very cold months.

He takes as Baits, Flag-worms, Waſps, Gentles, Graſhoppers their Legs being off, Red-worms, Gilt-tails, and Meadow-worms well ſcowered, Bobs, and under Water, Flies, eſpecially the Green ones; when he Bites, he runs off with the Bait to the further ſhoar, or as far that way as he can, and therefore you muſt give him Play, for though he ſeems a Fiſh made ſtrong enough, he will not much ſtruggle, but after two or three turns he falls on one ſide, and may be eaſily landed.

Here you muſt Angle with a Float, ſo that the Bait may touch the Ground, you may make ground Bait for *Bream*, with Malt, and it will draw them together.

## The Barbel how to Find, and Take him by Angling.

Barbel



THis Fish is very strong, and takes his name from the Barbs that hang at his Mouth, is curiously shaped with small Scales. In the hot months you will find him in the swift strong streams, though he shuns the current, and delights somewhat more out of the Rapidity, un-

der

der ſhades of Trees, lurks under Trees that are fallen into the Water and Weeds, where they root in the Sands like a Hog, and ſo Neſt, ſome ſuppoſe him to Eat much Gravel and Sand, but I rather fancy he ſeeks for Inſects or other food, that Heat and Moiſture produces in the bottom of Shallows, yet ſometimes he is found in the deep and ſwift Waters, eſpecially at Wears, Bridges or Flood-gates, where he ſhelters among Piles, or in hollow places, holding by the Moſs or Weeds, to prevent his being carried away by the Stream, when Winter is coming on he retires to the ſtill Deep.

His beſt biting time is early in the Morning, That is, from the Sun Riſing, till Ten, and from Four till the Sun-ſets, and often later, and this principally happens

happens from the 20th of *May*, to the latter end of *August*, you muſt be wary in taking him, for he is very ſubtil, and ſtruggles long, unleſs well managed; many are found together frequently, but in *April* they are little worth, for then is the ſpawning time.

As for the Baits you intend to take him with, care muſt be had that they are very ſweet, and ſuch as give him not diſtaſt; Angle for him with a Float, and ſo let down the Bait that it may touch the Gravel; He takes Bobs, Humble-Bees, Gentles not over-ſcowred, Dew-worms, New-Cheeſe, Red-worms, Paſte, the young brood of Waſps, Hornets, and ſo cunning he is, that you will be cheated of many a Bait in Angling for him, if you do not have a watchful Eye,

and a quick hand, for he will Nibble and Suck it off, and ten to one when your Float sinks, and you attempt to strike, whither he has the Hook in his Mouth, yet often if you strike the contrary way his Head lies, you may take him by the Nose, and give him Play till tired, or else if he be any thing large, unless your Tackle be very strong, part of it goes with him; he is not an over-pleasant Fish to Eat, by reason he's somewhat dry, and very full of Bones.

## *The* Trout *his Haunts, best way to Angle for him, and his Baits.*

TO be most sure of finding the *Trout*, address your Angle to small Purling Brooks, or swift gliding Rivers, not too great, observe whether their bottoms are Pebble, Gravel or smooth Stones, for on the side of these he usually has his Residence, though he is often found

in the deep, especially a large one, also behind Banks, Blocks, Stones, at Turnings or Points, where the Stream much beats, or makes a kind of whirling, he loves coverture and shade, from whence he may most easily seize his Prey, but his hold or hole is usually in deep places, he is seldom found among Weeds, rather among the boughs of Trees that hang in the Water or Shady Bushes, he plies in Spring at the Tail of the Stream, but as many other Fish do, about the middle of *May* at the upper end, staying long in a place, if his hold be near it, in the hot Weather, he leaves the deep, and goes into the sharper streams among Gravel, unless by the Excessive Heat of the Weather, droughts ensue, and then the still deep delights him.

This

This *Trout* may be taken by dibbing, or if the Weather be Dark, Cloudy and Windy, you may take him with the Caſt-fly, he is in ſeaſon from *March* till *Michaelmas*, but chiefly about the end of *May*, when he is in the beſt ſeaſon; his Body is adorned with red ſpots, the Female is accounted better than the Male, they much affect to be neat the Source or Spring of Rivers, and where they run on Lime Stones, there the beſt *Trouts* are found.

Angle for him at the ground with a running Line, with two or three ſmall Pellets of Lead omitting the Float, or you may take him by Float Angling at the ground, if you are dexterous at Angling with a ſingle Hair, two Links from your Hook, he is much ſooner taken than with two or three Hairs though

though you must be cautious he break not the Line, and this is better done at the bottom, than top, because there he has not so much force to shoot and spring, as on the top, and a single Hair next the Hook, if well chosen and strong, will take one of 13 Inches, if there be Water-room, free from Wood and Weeds.

He Bites best in a Water that after a Flood is clearing, or rising, somewhat Troubled; Cloudy and Windy Weather, early in the Morning is the best time from the middle of *April*, to the end of *August*, from Sun-rising till near Eleven, and from two till Sunset, but Nine in the Morning, and Three in the Afternoon are the best times, at the Ground or Fly as the Water is most agreeable, in *March*, the beginning

beginning of *April*, *Septembe* and till the fifteenth of *Octobe* and then you muſt ceaſe Angling for the *Trout*, to the end of *F bruary*, after a ſhower has falle in the Evening, you will find him riſe at a Gnat. In warm weather you may dib for him with the Minow or Loach.

As for other Baits than what I have mentioned, the principal are at the Ground, Brandling, Gilt-tails, Tag-tails, Meadow-worms, and for the greater, Dew-worms, well ſcowred, the two firſt hold him all the Seaſons, either in Muddy or Clear Waters, the reſt do well when the Water is diſcoloured with Rain, you may uſe a Cod-bait either for Top or Bottom, but then it muſt be in Clear Water, he takes the Palmer-fly or Wool-bed, and all ſorts of

Artificial

Artificial and Natural Flies at the top of the Water. When you Bait with ſmall Fiſh, as the Menow, Bull-head and Loach, cut off their Fins, and the Gills of the latter, and ſo with theſe Inſtructions and a little practice to ripen Experience, depend on ſucceſs.

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The

## The Eel their Haunt, Bait, and Taking them, &c.

Eel.

THere is many diſputes about the Generation of *Eels*, whether they generate and breed as other Fiſh do, or proceed from Mud and Putrefaction, enlivened by Heat and Moiſture, But my buſineſs being to inſtruct you how to come by them, I ſhall lay no ſtreſs on that nicety,

cety, since *Eels* there are, and for their delicacy, are called by some the Queen of Fish.

Their Haunts in the day time, are usually under the covert of Tree Roots, Brush-wood, Planks, or Piles, about Flood-gates, Wears, or Mill-dams, in hollow holes in Banks, they mostly delight in foul, still Water, or at least such as runs very slow, with Ousey Sand, or Muddy Bottoms, in Pits, Ponds and Meers.

Bait for him with a young Lamprey, Dew-worms, scowred Earth-worms, any very small Fish their Fins cut off, Guts of Chickens or other Fowl cut in small lengths, Lean Beaf, the Brood of Wasps, the four first take him Day or Night, but most

moſt of the reſt are propereſt for Night hooks.

Take him in the day by a Ledger Bait, by Snigling, Bobbing, Brogling; as for Brogling and Snigling, the beſt method I have known is this, get a long and ſtrong Line, your hook of a ſmall compaſs, Baited with ſcoured Red-worms, or Dew-worms, having one end of your Line in your hand, place very eaſily the upper end of your Hook in the Cleft of a Hazle-Rod of convenient length, ſo that it may ſlip out as you pleaſe, and where you fancy the *Eel* to be, let the Bait leaſurely ſink, and ſuppoſing it ſwallowed by giving time leaſurely, draw him up by little and little, elſe lying double with the ſtrength of his Tail, your Line is endangered.

This

This you must practise in hot weather, the Waters being low. As for

Bobbing, take large Earth-worms out of good Mould, scoure them well in Moss, and run a strong thread with a needle through them end-ways, as many as will lightly wrap a dozen times round your hand, make them into Links, and fasten them to a strong Pack-thread or Whip-cord two yards or more long; make a knot about six or eight inches from the Worms, put about three quarters of a pound of Plummet, made Pyramidically on the Cord, by the means of a hollowness, or hole bored through it, and let it sink to the bottom, fix the Cord to a manageable Pole; Angle with this in muddy or Cloudy Water in the sides of the Streams, or Deeps,

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when the *Eel* or *Eels* Tug, let them be well fastened by the Teeth, before you draw up, then do it gently, till on the top, and hoist them quickly then to Land; many by this way have been taken at a time.

Some near *Eels* haunts sink a Bottle of Hay loosly bound, stuffed with Fowls Guts and Liver cut in long shreads overnight, and coming early the next Morning, drawing it up hastily by the Rope fastened to the Band, find large *Eels* bedded in it for the sake of the Prey. This may be done with a bundle of Brush-wood, out of which upon pulling up they cannot so easily get.

## To Angle, &c. for the Grayling or Umber.

THough this Fish has two Names given it, the former for the lesser sort, and the latter for the greater, yet both are the same Species.

Their Haunts are in Marly Clay, Clear Water, and swift Streams, the largest is accounted eighteen Inches, being in season all the year, but their time is *December*, when his Gills and Head are Blackish, and his Belly a dark Gray, studded with Black spots, he will bite freely, but is very tender-mouthed, therefore be careful your break not hold, though he

will not ſtruggle much, as being very faint when he is hooked. Angle for him, in or near the middle of the Water, for he is always more apt to riſe than deſcend, wherefore he is rarely taken by a Ground Bait, rather than a running Line, uſe for him a Float of Cork, if you particularly Angle for him, but for *Grayling* and *Trout* the running Line is the beſt.

As for Baits, he takes Brandlings, Gilt-tails, Meadow-worms, Tag-tails, the Bark-worm, Flag-worm, Meadow-worm, Cod-bait, Natural or Artificial Flies, particularly the Camlet Fly and Fly made of Purple Wool and one made of Tawny Camlet Hair, alſo the Earth-bob and Clap-bait.

## The Pope or Ruff, his Haunts, how to Angle for him, with proper Baits, &c.

THE *Pope* or *Ruff*, is one being in Shape, Nature and Disposition, like the *Pearch*, though in bigness not exceeding a large *Gudgeon*, but of a more pleasing taste, he bites Eagerly, and many of them are usually together, where the Water runs slowly and is deep in Sandy places, fifty of them have been taken at a standing. You may Bait him with the small Red-worm, Gilt-tal, Meadow-worm, and other Baits proper for the *Pearch*, he biting at the

ſame time the *Pearch* do's; yo
may ground Bait with new tur
ed up Earth of a Fallow, as al
with a Clear Sand, you may tak
him with a ſingle Hair, the Lin
next the Hook, the Body of i
is rough, and hath prickly, a
ſharp Fins; it has its Seaſo
and Nature like the *Pearch*, a
is a very wholeſome Fiſh, eatin
ſhort and tender.

## *The* Bleak *or* Bley, *to Angle for him, &c.*

THis Fiſh makes ſport, though not much valued, as not being very wholeſome, it is many times deſtroyed by a Worm that breeds in its Stomach in hot Weather, he bites eagerly, and you may Fiſh for him with ſeveral Hooks on one Line, and if you catch three or four together on the ſeveral Hooks, not fear the breaking of your Line, tying them about half a foot one above the other, he is eaſily taken with Gentles, ſmall Redworms, and the Dub-fly which muſt be of a ſad brown; Angle at middle Water, or at the Top,

for he is usually in motion; There is another sort of these, called the *Sea-Bleak*, better and wholesomer than this, called by some the *Sea-Camelion*, because in the Water he seems often to change his colour.

## The Chub or Chevin his Haunts, and to Angle for him.

THE *Chub* though large, is a very timerous Fish, he is found in large Rivers, having Sandy or Clayey bottoms, delights much in Streams shaded with Trees, as also in holes, where many of them consort together, he is in season from the middle of *May* till after *Candlemas*, you may take him with dibbing on the top of the Water, but in the hot Months he keeps Mid-water, in the colder Weather Angle at the bottom with the Ledger Bait.

He bites from Sun Rising till Eight, and from Three till Sunset, the large one when ſtruck is ſooneſt tired, the leſs will ſtruggle longer, and in Sunſhiny Weather they bite, in Winter the middle of the Day.

He ſcarcely refuſes any bait, if not too large, as Lamprey-Pride, the Eels-Brood, Dew-worms, large Red-worms ſcowred in Mots and Gravel, Clap-Baits, ſmall Snails, White and Black Cheeſe Paſte, the Marrow of an Ox or Cows back, a Beetle with the Legs off, all ſorts of Baits bred on Trees, Plants and Herbs, Cod-baits, Brood of Waſps, Hornets and Humble-Bees, the Fat of Ruſty Bacon, Dors, Graſhoppers, alſo Rasberries, Black-Berries, Mulberries, a Fly, and a Cod-

bait,

bait, and an Oak-worm on the Hook together, infallibly takes him in the hot months.

When he is taken he must be eaten the same Day, or is little worth, most esteem his Head the best part.

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Date

## Dace or Dare, and Roach, their Haunts, Baits, and how to Angle for them.

THese delight in Ponds or Rivers with Gravelly bottoms or Sand, they love deep Clear Waters, ſhaded with Trees, either in Rivers, or elſewhere; the *Dace* Spawn about the middle of *March*, and are in ſeaſon three Weeks after; the Fleſh is ſoft and ſweet in taſte, and in *Italy* they are pickled as Anchovies.

You muſt Angle for the *Dace*, within two Inches of the bottom, and ſometimes the Bait may

may touch it if it be with Worms, but with Flies, at the Top of the Water, or within an Inch.

The *Roach* Spawns about the middle of *May*, and is so healthful, that his Soundness has created an usual saying, though often causes some to tell Lies: the best *Roach* by reason of the abundance of Soil are found in the *Thames* near *London*; Angle for him abont two foot in the Water, and in Temperate Weather they bite all day long, the Float Angle takes them best.

Their Baits are numerous as their Fry, as Worms bred on Trees, Plants, Herbs, Gentles, Cod-baits, Grashoppers with the Legs off, Flies Artificial or Natural; particularly the Ant-fly, Meadow-worms scowred, Bread,

Bread-Corn boiled; the Roach in Ponds is chiefly found under the Water-docks, if there be any, and indeed few small come amiss to them.

## The Flounder or Flook, his Haunts, Baits, and Angling.

THis is properly a Salt-Water Fish, no where but in Rivers that have Communication with the Sea, and is first brought up by the Tide loosing, and himself in fresh Streams, he after some time minds not his way back again; they love Gentle streams, Gravelly and Sandy bottoms, are very shy, and not easily taken, they bite all the Day, *May*, *June*, *July*, and the beginning of *August*, though he will Nibble much about the Hook, and suck off the Bait, if you be not wary to keep it in motion,

motion, which hinders him from seeing the Hook, if he do, away he flies from it, sometimes he's in the Deep, and sometimes in the Shallow, he takes scowred Meadow or Marsh-worms, Earth-worms, Gentles, the Brood of Wasps, Gilt-tails and Brandlings, he is to be Angled for with the Float, and your Bait must touch the ground.

## The Minow, or Pench, Loach, and Bull-head or Millers Thumb, Lampreys.

THese are rather Baits for other Fish than of any value in themselves. The first is taken with small Worms, Brandlings, and Gilt-tails; the two latter with Gilt-tails, Meadow-worms at the Ground; *Lampreys* are taken as the *Eel*, being much of that nature, therefore I omit for brevities sake to be tedious on these.

*Observations*

## *Observations on, and Rules for Natural Fly-Angling.*

THis is a choice point in Angling, requiring a quick Eye, and wary Hand; it is termed by Artists Dibling, Dibbing, or Dapeing, and is performed on the Surface of the Water, or at most sometimes not letting the Bait sink about two or three Inches under, nor that, unless the Oak-fly, for the *Chub* or *Trout*, has joined to it, a Clap-bait or Cod-bait.

This must ever be done in Clear Water, without Lead or Float, in the Evening of a Hot Day, or in a Hot Calm day is best,

best, and the Still Deep is to be preferred before the Stream, though on the side of a Stream, when the Water is Clearing after great Rains, or a Flood, is very proper, and all hours you may Dib with the Green Drake-fly, and if you needs must do't in the Stream, use the Stone-fly, which is proper Early and Late, but if in the Evening it is Windy, take the Artificial Stone-fly, which I shall teach you to make; for then in the Stream the Fish, rise the best, and are soonest taken, and if you pull off the Wings, you may Angle in the Water with it, and it will take very much in a Stream near the bottom, you must in this case observe to keep out of sight, as much as may be, and keep your Fly moving, that it may appear to the Fish to be alive.

In

In Dibbing for *Dace*, Roub or *Chub*, let not your motion be ſwift, if you can perceive any of them coming towards it, but make two or three ſhort removes, as if there were a Reſt, or the Fly were Swimming or Playing, then let it gently glide with the ſtream if poſſible towards the Fiſh, but if it be ſlow or ſtanding Water, you muſt keep it moving with your hand, not juſt upon him, but ſide-ways and ſloaping by him, this leſt it ſhould eſcape him, will make him mind it the more, for only the *Trout*, if it be moved ſwiftly, will of any certainty follow it.

In a Calm Dibbing it is not ſo ſure, as when a pretty good Gale ſtirs the Water, for then neither you, nor the deceit put on the Fiſh by an Artificial Fly,

so easily discovered, and then few Natural Flies at liberty can lye on the Water, and for want of choice, they will Snap at the first that comes in their way, and bite more eager for hunger; and if they will not rise at the Top, try them a little lower, for some will be sooner taken, as the *Roach*, particularly by Dibbing under the Water than at top; *Roach*, *Dace* and *Chub* will sometimes be pleased with an Artificial Fly, especially if an Earth-bob, Cod-bait, Earth-worm, or Gentle, be put on the point of the Hook, or an Oak-worm, is very pleasing on the Top or under the Water.

At Dibbing and Trayling, *Trout* and *Salmon-Smelts* will take an Artificial Fly well, particularly the Stone-fly and Green-drake, Early, or Late in the Evening,

Evening; and if you for *Salmon*, *Smelt*, *Roach*, *Chub* or *Dace*, with the Dub-fly, put on a Gentle, Waſp, Cod-bait or Clap-bait, let it ſtand well on the point of your Hook, when the Wind Furls the Waters, and few Flies appear on it, or over it, is the beſt time to Angle with the Fly Natural or Artificial; for then having no variety of choice, they will quickly take your Bait; if it be a Sunſhiny day, get under the ſhade of Trees if you can, that neither the ſhadow of your Body, nor Rod may appear in the Water to fright them away; if you find the Fiſh riſe not at top, ſink your Fly by degrees, and try even to middle-water, and before the ſorts of Flies are naturally in ſeaſon, the Fiſh very rarely riſe at them, therefore to know this, that you miſtake

not

not in your Baiting, obſerve what Flies are on the Water, or flying near over it, or are on the Buſhes or Trees, of Ponds and Rivers, and that Fly that Swarms there moſt, is chief in ſeaſon, and is to be uſed either Natural, or to be imitated by Artifice; ſome open the firſt Fiſh they take, and look in its Stomach to ſee what indigeſted Food there remains, and from that take their meaſures, tho' uncertain; for either it muſt be partly conſumed, or ſo diſcoloured that it cannot well be known, and alſo Fiſh for Extream hunger, take in ſuch Food at one time, as at another they altogether diſlike.

You may for other Baits found in Rivers, grope in the Sand, Bank-ſides within the Water, under the Stones, or obſerve what

what Insects are Playing, or Swimming in, or on the Surface of the Water, and so accordingly provide your self with seasonable Baits. In *May* you may Dibb with Oak-flies, Fern-flies, or Oak-worms for *Trout*, and all Summer with the Fern-fly for *Chub*, keeping the Bait moving on the Top of the Water, as if it were alive, and your self out of sight, as much as possible it may be.

*Artificial*

## Artificial Fly Angling.

ARtificial Dub-fly or Caſt-fly Angling, is ſomewhat more difficult, and requires more cunning than the former, and is more perfectly Learned by ſeeing it done, than by Printed directions, however I doubt not but to give a ſatisfactory account of it to the Angler.

The firſt thing to be materially conſidered is, to know and chuſe the proper colours of flies in Seaſon when you Angle, and theſe muſt be propotioned to the places you Fiſh in; for there are different Haunts of flies, and are found much earlier in ſome places than in others,

as the Season proves Hot or Cold; a warm Spring brings them early, but the contrary later, sometimes by a Month, and always sooner in high grounds, than in those that are Low and Marshy, or Boggy.

And though sometimes upon disgust, Fish suddenly change their Fly, yet it is not usual until they have been glutted with one sort, and that must be some days first, and when the sort of Fly is near going off. Nor will they freely take them till they are at their best and most plentiful, and it always follows, when one sort goes out, another comes in, which you must have a special regard well to note, and make to change with them.

The Fly required being found, your next buſineſs is, to make one in Colour, Shape, Proportion of Body and Wings, as like as poſſible, always having the Natural one as a Pattern; and to do this, you muſt have in readineſs Bears-hair of divers Colours, Camels hair, Sad, Light, and of middle indifferent Colour, Badgers hair, Spaniels hair, Sheeps wool, Dogs hair, Hog Down, ſuch as is combed from the Roots or Briſtles of a Hog, Camblets and Mohairs of divers Colours, Cows hair, Abortive Calves, and Colts hair.

Furs of Squirrels Tails, the Tails of Black Cats, Yellow and Dun Cats, of Hares Necks, the Fern Colour Ferrets Fur, Martins, Yellow Fur, Filmers Fur, the Tails of White Weaſels,

Moles, Black Rabbets, Down of a Fox Cub, Ash-colour at the Roots of Fox, Fur that comes off the Otter, and Otter Cub, Blackish and Brown Badgers hair, that has been in a Skinners Lime-Pit.

Hackles or Feathers about a Cock or Capons Neck, and such as hang loosely down on each side the Tail, of various colours; particularly to make the Palmerfly, or Insect called the Woolbed, you must have Feathers of all sorts of Fowl, and those coloured Feathers required that you cannot get natural, you may dye.

You must also have Caddows or Blankets, out of which are got good Dubbings, so of Cushions made of Abortive Skins of Calves and Colts, like Silver Wire,

Wire, Gold Twist, Silver Twist, White and Yellow Bees-wax, for Ground Work, or to frame the Bodies and Heads on, as the Nature of the Fly more or less requires it, and a sharp pointed neat pair of Scissars, to trim and shape your Work.

## *How to make the Dub-Fly.*

WEt your Materials to know how they will hold Colour, for though dry they may appear of the right Colour, yet Wet they may alter, and be too Light or too Dark this done, take the Hook in your Left Hand, between your Fore-finger and Thumb, the Shanks back upwards, take ſtrong Silk of that Colour the Fly requires and Wax it with Wax of the ſame Colour, and ſo draw it to the Head of the Shank, betwixt your Finger and Thumb, and whip it about the bare hook two or three times; draw your Line between your

your Thumb and Finger, holding the Hook ſo faſt, that it may only have ſpace to paſs by, ſo joining the Hook and Line, put on the Wings, faſhion the Body and Head, by twiſting the Dubbing on your Waxed Silk, and Lapping it on, ſo Work it by degrees up towards the Head, and part the Wings of an even length, or the Fly will not Swim upright; then turn it into a proper ſhape, by nipping off the ſuperfluous Dubbing from the Silk, ſo faſten and accouter your Fly: It would be well to ſee one done by an Experienced Angler, and then theſe Directions will be eaſie to you.

## *Directions relating to Dub-flies, and Angling with them,*

1. WHen you proportion your Dub-fly, consider the largeness or littleness of the Fish you intend it for, and be sure the Belly of it is of the exact colour, because it is most obvious.

2. Let not the Tail of the Fly be only to the bend of the Hook, and not come unto the bent of it.

3. If the *Trout* at the top of the Water refuse it, the day is not proper for it, or the Fly either out of season or ill made.

When

When you Angle with the Dub-fly, it muſt be in ſuch a River or Water which is clear, after Rain, or in a River a little diſcoloured with Moſs or Bogs, in Mooriſh places, or elſe in a Cloudy, Gloomy Day, when the Water is ſtirred by gentle Gales; or if the Winds be pretty high, they will riſe in the plain Deep, but in little Wind, the beſt is to Angle in the Stream.

Keep your Fly in continual Motion in all Weathers, to prevent the Fiſh from diſcerning the fraud; in clear and low Water let the Body of the Fly be the ſmaller, and the Wings very ſlender. In dark Weather and thick Water, let the Fly be of a darkiſh colour, but it muſt be pretty large Body and Wings, the better to be diſcovered;

in a clear day, a light coloured Fly is preferrible.

A Rod for the Dub-fly should be five yards at least, and the Line about seven, or somewhat more, if the Water be free from Incumbrance of Weeds, &c. and to adapt your Fly to the colour of the Water more properly, have three of the sort, the one Light, the next a degree Darker, and the third the true colour of the Natural Fly, by trying all which, you may gain the more Experience, for one of them cannot well miss. In slow Rivers, Muddy and Slimy bottomed in great Draughts expect little success, but rather chuse Pebbly, Sandy or Stony bottoms, in a running Stream, which much Cools and Refreshes the Fish in the hot months.

Let

Let your Eye be ſteady on what you are about, and your hand ready to ſtrike when it is convenient, which is with the riſing of the Fiſh; or he finding his miſtake will throw out the Hook again: But for a great Fiſh, moſt hold it proper to let him turn his Head with the Bait, which will leſs ſtrain your Tacke, for ſo he will ſtrike himſelf, and then do it moderately.

Upon Caſting, do it with a little circling about your Head, by waving the Rod: or elſe the Fly may with too ſmart a jerk be apt to ſnap off, Caſt the Fly behind a *Trout* at his riſing, and ſo with a gentle hand draw it over his Head, ſo that not ſcaring him, he will quickly take it if it be the right colour.

In Casting, observe to do it always before you, that it may fall on the Water, and no part of the Line dash to scare away the Fish; and do it if you can without making any circling in the Water: But if the Winds be high, some part must be in the Water to keep the Fly from being blown out. Take your standing so, if possible, that the Sun may be in your Face, and the Wind to your Back.

In Still or Slow Water, cast your Fly almost a cross the River or Pond, and draw it towards you gently a little way, that you break not the Water, or put it into trouble, and let it bear with the Current if there be any, Fishing downwards and not upwards of the River. Thus having as I hope given

given plain Instructions in these matters, to be understood by easie Capacities, I proceed to describe Artificial Flies, for the proper Month of Angling with them.

---

*Artificial*

## *Artificial Flies proper in the Month of the Fishing Season, how to make them.*

*Febr.* THE Palmer-fly or Plain Hackle must have a rough black body, which may be done with black Spaniels hair, or the Whirl of an Estridge Feather, and the red Hackle of a Capon, all over.

The Prince Dun, this may be Dubbed of the Down of a Fox Cub, with Ash-coloured Silk, the Wings of a Stares Feather, this must be made little.

The

The little Red, Brown Dub, with the ſofteſt hair on the black ſpot of a Hogs Ear, the Wings of Mallards Feathers near white, wrap it on with red Silk.

*March.* The Green-tail may be made of the brown-hair of a Spaniel, taken from the out-ſide of the Ear, and a little from the extream of the Tail.

Moriſh brown, may be Dubbed with Black Sheeps Wool, Red Silk, and the Wings made of a Partridges Wing Feather.

Thorn-tree-fly Dub of a very good black, and mix a little Iſabella coloured Mohair; with it make a little body, and the Wings of a Mallards brighteſt Feathers.

The

The early bright brown, make of the Hair of a brown Spaniel, that of the flank of a Red Cow, and Wing it with the Grey Feather of a Wild Duck.

*April.* The Violet-fly which takes excellently from the sixth to the tenth, make of Bears hair a light Dun, mixed with Violet Stuff, Wing it with the greasie Feathers of a Mallard: The Horse-flesh fly, which lasts all this Month, Dub with Pink colours, Blew Mohair, and Red Tammy, let the Head be dark brown, and the Wings of a light colour.

The small bright Brown, is very well taken in a clear Day and Water, make it of Spaniels Fur with a light Grey Wing.

*May.*

*May.* The Green Drake an excellent killer, Dub on a large Hook with Camels hair, bright Bears hair, ſoft Down combed from the Briſtles of a Hog, mix yellow Camlet; let the Body be long, and Rib it with green Silk mixed with yellow; let the Whisks of his Tail be the long hair of Sables, his Wings, the light grey Feather of a Mallard died yellow.

The Stone-fly Dub, with Dun Bears hair, mix it with a little brown and yellow Camlet, that ſhe may be yellower on the Belly and Tail, than in any other part, to be the better liked by the Fiſh, who moſtly Eyes the Belly of Baits; and to adorn it the more, place two or three hairs of the Beard of a Black Cat, on the top of the Hook, in the Whipping or Arming, and in warping

warping on your Dubbing, ſtaring one from another ſomething upright, Rib her with yellow Silk, make the Wings long and large, of the dark grey Feather of a Mallard, or other ſuch like Feather.

The Grey Drake comes in when the Green one goes out, much of ſhape with it, but in colour differs, and muſt be made of a paler and more blewiſh yellow and green, his Ribs quite down his body muſt be of black, with black ſhining Wings very thin, and may be made of the grey feathers of a Mallard, the Down under Hogs Briſtles, the black Hair of a Spaniel, and the Whisks of his Tail, of the Beard of a Black Cat.

*June.* The Ant-fly is dubbed with brown and red Camlet, the Wing of the Feathers of a light-grey Pidgeon.

The

The Purple-fly, with Purple Wool, mixed with light brown Bears Hair, the Wings of a Stares Feather, Dub it with Purple Silk.

The brown Hackle make of the lightest brown Hair, of a somewhat grown Colt, with a red Hackle or Cocks Neck-feather over it, warped with hair colour or Ash coloured Silk.

*July*. Orange-fly, Dub this with Orange coloured Cruel or Wool, and the Feathers of a Black-Birds Wing.

The Wasp-fly. Do this with brown Dubbing, or else of the Hair of a black Cats tail; rib it with yellow Silk, and make the Wings of the grey Feather of a Mallard's Wing.

The blew Dun must be made with the Down of a Water Mouse, and the blewish Dun found on an old Fox, mix them well

well together, and Dub with fad Aſh coloured Silk, the Feathers of a Stares Quill, will furniſh you with Wings.

*Auguſt.* The late Ant-fly may be Dubbed of the Hair of a Cow, that is of a blackiſh brown, and for the tagging of the Tails wrap in ſome red, and make the Wing of a dark Feather, this Fly takes admirably.

The Fern-fly muſt properly be Dubbed with the Wool taken from a Hares Neck, of the colour of Fern, when dry, make the Wings of the darkiſh grey Feather of a Mallard.

The Hearth-fly, Dub of the Wool of an aged Black Ewe, with ſome Grey Hair to accommodate the Body and Head, Dub with black Silk, and take the light

light Feather of a Stare for the Wings.

*September*. The little blew Dun, make of the Fur a Water-Mouse, Dub it with sad Ash-coloured Silk, and Wing it with the Feather of a blew Pidgeon.

The late Badger, do this with Badgers Hair that is Black, whip with red Silk, and use a darkish grey Mallards Feather for the Wings.

The Camel brown-fly, pull out for Dubbing, the Hair in the Lime of an old Wall, whip it with red Silk, make the Wings of a Stares lightest Feather.

*October*. This Month is supplied by the Flies of the former, for all being now upon their going away, any almost will do.

And

And thus Reader keeping to my intended Brevity, I have ſingled you out the beſt killing Flies from a great many more, and by knowing how well to make theſe, you may ſoon imitate all others, by having a Natural Fly before you, and chuſing your materials ſuitable to her colour, and ſhape her as you ſee the other, and then promiſe your ſelf ſucceſs in Angling with her as directed.

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*Various*

## *Various, but very Curious Observations on Angling divers ways of Angling not commonly known.*

NOte that sometimes all sorts of Fish take Baits at the ground, when but some sorts will take the Fly at the Top of the Water; and therefore to Angle for a *Trout* with a Worm, chuse the running Line without any Float, only small Plummets in their proper places. This is successful at the ground either in Clear or Muddy Water.

As for the latter, use a Line a little more than half the length of the Rod, and sometimes less than

than that length, and the lowest moſt Links muſt be at leaſt three Hairs, and one at top of four, whereof have a Water Nooſe or Loop, to put it to another Link of four hairs, having alſo a Loop or Water Nooſe at its bottom; ſo proceed with Links of five or ſix hairs a piece, till you come to the top-moſt, make the loweſt of Cheſnut colour, or Sorrel brown. Then to your Reed or Cane, have a Top neither too ſtiff nor too feeble, but between both, the Cane about three yards and a half long, and the Top about a yard and a half, or near two yards, in one or two pieces, and five or ſix Inches of Whale-bone, ſmooth, round, and pliant.

Obſerve to Lead your Line, as is conſiſtent with the Water; in rough ſtreams more than in

ſmall

small gentle ſtreams, and leaſt of all in Still Water; then carry the top or point of your Rod in a level with your hand, and ſo you will by the point of your Rod, perceive the Bite at the Ground, then ſtrike ſtrait and gently upwards, and by a little ſlacking your hand before, you will give the Fiſh time the better to take the Bait.

Some are of opinion, if you know that a *Trout* bites, to ſtrike at the firſt biting, but this is only allowed in Clear Water for *Salmon-Smelts*, *Trout*, and *Grayling*, and the Bait is the beſt Red-worms ſcowred, or a Brandling, and Gilt-tail turned Head to Tail, and run croſs wiſe through the middle, under the Wings, and ſo you may do in Muddy Water with

other Worms, as two Brandlings, two Meadow-worms, *&c.* a *Trout* will seize on the Bait when it drags on the ground, either in Clear or Muddy Water, but a large *Grayling* will rather rise a Foot or more at your Bait from the bottom, than descend.

If a large *Trout* you Angle for in Muddy Water, then it requires some art in baiting your Hook, as suppose the Bait a Dew-worm, here you must thrust the Hook in towards the Tail, a little above the middle, and out again below the Head, then draw him above the Arming of the Hook, or Whipping, so put the point into the Head of the Worm, till it is very near the place where the point of the Hook first came out, and so draw back the Worm or that part that was above the Shank.

Shank. This Hook ſhould be ndifferent large.

To Bait two Worms in Mud- y Water for a *Trout*, *&c.* from ight to ten Inches: Take Mea- low-Worms, or Brandlings, or Brandling and Gilt-tail, and un the point of the Hook in at he Head down the Body, till it paſs the knot, or come to he middle of the Worm; then trip it above the Arming or Whipping, not bruiſing it in ny manner with your Fingers, o put on the other, by running he Hook in the ſame manner, nd let the Head of it juſt cover he point of the Hook, then lip the firſt down, till the knots or middle of both Worms meet together; and thus you may do by any other Worms, for other Fiſh, as by fore-

foregoing directions you find they take them.

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## *Directions for Angling with the running Line in Clear Water.*

PUT a Gilt-tail and small Brandling on your Hook, as before directed, well scowred, and here your Hook must be much smaller than in Muddy Water, two or three of the lowermost Links of your Line of a single Hair, so rise from two, to three or four, of a grey or duskish White, the Line about two yards shorter than

than the Rod, leaded with a small black Plummet.

Angle with this in the ſtream always up it, in a River with a light hand, ſtill caſting out the Worm before you; let the Rod be as the former: And thus you may Angle for *Salmon-Smelts*, *Trout* or *Grayling*, to whoſe proper Baits I refer you in my Treatiſe of Baits in this Book.

## Directions for the Top-Water Angling with a Worm.

YOur Line in this case must be longer than your Rod, without any Plummet or Float, drawing your Bait down and up the stream, in a clear day with a gentle hand, that it may glide as if it were swimming, and your Bait here must be a Gilt-tail, or Brandling, keep it from the shoar, and free from Intanglements of Weeds, Wood, Rushes, or other Incumbrances that hinder sport.

Further

## Farther Directions for Float Angling.

HEre your Line must be two or three foot longer than your Rod in Rivers, but in Ponds and Pits something shorter, Angling in Clear Water for *Salmon Smelts*, *Trout* or *Grayling*, you must put but one Hair next the Hook, but in Muddy Water, and for other Fish two or three, observing the running Line and Rod for the *Trout*, and proportion this to it, Lead it moderately, but so that it may keep the Line strait and even, but for *Tench*, *Carp*, *Barbel* or *Chub*, your Rod and Line must have an additional strength in the thickness of

the one, and the number of Hairs in the other, and your Float manageable in the Water, proportioned according to the ſwiftneſs or ſlowneſs of the Water, but with one Worm, the Water being very clear; and obſerve for ſome ſort of Fiſh as *Flounders*, *Salmon-Smelts*, *Bream* and *Gudgeon*, your Bait muſt drag on the ground, but for other ſorts, as *Tench*, *Roach*, *Bleak*, *Pike*, *Ruff*, and *Carp*, at mid-water; for *Grayling* and *Pearch*, at ſix or nine Inches from the bottom. The *Chub* is often taken at Bottom, Mid-water and Top.

You may uſe the various ſorts of Baits, Angling with a Float, but Ground Baits are moſt frequently uſed, and with ſucceſs.

*Directions*

## Directions for Drabling.

BY this, *Barbe's* of large size are taken; to do it compleatly, observe these Rules.

Have a strong Line of six yards, which before you fasten it to your Rod, must be put through a piece of Lead, that if the Fish bite, it may slip too and fro, and that the Water may something move it on the ground, Bait it with a pretty large Lob-worm well scowred, and so by its motion, the *Barbel* will be enticed into the danger without suspicion. The best places are in running Water near Piles, or under Wooden

Bridges, ſupported with Oaks doated and ſlimy.

This Drabling way I have placed here, by the particular directions of my worthy friend Mr. *Samuel Wright* of *Derbyſhire*, an Experienced Angler, of the Crown Society of Jolly Anglers in *Fleetſtreet*.

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## *Angling with the Ledger-Bait.*

THis is uſed for variety of Exerciſe, to give reſt to the Anglers, and ſo differs from others, that are called walking Baits, and this is, when the

the Bait continues to reſt in one fixed and certain place.

Here you muſt take off your Float, but let the Lead remain, and within half a yard of the top of the Line, wrap a thin plate of Lead, an Inch and half long, and pretty broad, viz. about an Inch, ſo faſten your Line to your Rod, caſt in your Bait either into a ſtill ſlow draught, or gentle ſtream, and when it is at the bottom you may ſtick your Rod in the Bank of the River, or hold it in your hand at diſcretion, and by the bending of the Rod, or motion of the Lead at top, you will perceive when the Fiſh Bites, give her ſome time, and ſtrike contrary to where her head lyes. The *Chub* and *Eel* are ſucceſsfully taken this way.

## *To lay Night Hooks.*

TO do this effectually, procure a ſmall Cord, which may be about ſixteen yards long, and to this at equal diſtances, tye five or ſix fine twiſted Flax or Silk Lines, about eighteen Inches each, of the thickneſs of your Trowling Line, faſten them ſo that they may be eaſily removed, and put on again, whip to the ends of each of them a pretty ſtrong hook, Bait with a Loach, Minow or Bull-head, the Fins and Gills cut off; or theſe being wanting, the Seven Eyes, Eel-brood, ſmall Roach, Gudgeon, the Pith of an Ox or Cows Back Bone, *&c.* will

ſerve for the Fiſh, put the point of the Hook in at the Tail, and out at the mouth, ſo that the Fiſhes Head may have a reſting in the Hooks bent, and that the point may not be diſcovered, cover it with a Worm, and caſting the Cord by a weight, over the River, Stream or Pond, faſten both ends to ſtakes on either ſide, and be there Early in the Morning, and expect *Chub*, large *Eels*, *Trout* or *Pike*, but for a *Pike* keep the Bait with a Float, about a foot or ſomething more from the bottom.

For this to gather the Fiſh, you may Bait the ground with Blood and Grains, or Sweet, made up in Sweet Earth, taken from under the green Soard, or Paſts, &c.

Choic

## Choice Receipts, or Rare or Secrets, never before made Publick.

TAke Oyl of Amber, Rosemary and Myrrh, an equal quantity, infuse in them any Worms, or mingle Paste with them, and the Fish if near, will hasten to the Bait so dipped, and then not have power to go away, till she either Nibbles off the Bait, or is Taken.

Ovl of Water Lillies, and the Juice of Mulberries, is excellent to make up Paste with, especially with a few drops of Oyl of Peny-royal in it, and the Fat of a Hedg-hog or Urchin.

Ground-

Ground-bait for *Carp*, with unpickled Samphire bruised, and made into Balls, with Walnut Oil. This likewise allures *Tench* and *Bream*.

Over-night, mix Bean Flower with a little Honey, wet it with Rectified Spirits of Wine, and a little Oil of Turpentine, make it up into little Pellets, and such Fish as Nibble it, when thrown in, will be stupified, so that in the Morning, coming to themselves a little, they will bite very eagerly, as being after their drunken fit exceeding hungry. This likewise is a sure detainer of them all night in Summer, so that they will not wander from the place. *Nux Vomica* scraped into Paste, makes them Drunk, so that if the Water be shallow, you may go in and take them,

when they rise and turn up their Bellies as if expiring, though in a little time they will come to themselves again, if the Water be deep you may use a Landing Net.

The Fat of Barnacles or Sea-Gulls is extreamly coveted by Fish, if mixed with the Juice of Eringoes, or Sea Holly. The Craw of a Turtle Dove well scowred, is taken very eagerly by the *Pike*.

The Fat of a Water Rat, takes *Pearch* if the Bait be rubbed with it, as that of a Mole does the *Pike*.

Some

## *Some particular obſervations on* Gudgeon *Angling.*

THE *Gudgeon* though not over large, is approved among other Fiſh as a Dainty, being very wholeſome Food. This Fiſh Spawns twice or thrice in the year, he delights in ſharp Streams, with Gravelly or Sandy bottoms, and ſhews the young Angler extraordinary good ſport, who not being well skilled in chuſing, or not well knowing how to come by other Baits, may take him with a ſmall Red-worm on the ground, or very near it, and rarely by reaſon of the toughneſs of his Mouth, is he loſt when ſtruck. In the heat of Summer they make to the Shallows

lows in Rivers, but when the Weeds in *Autumn*, grow of a bad taſte, or rot, and Cold Weather comes on, then they get together in Deep places; and here it is propereſt to Fiſh for them at the ground, or a little above it; if you fiſh with a Cork or Float, but it may be done with a running Line on the ground, without a Float: As for particular Baits, I have already diſcourſed of them, and among others thoſe relating to the *Gudgeon*.

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## *A ſpecial Winter Bait to get, and preſerve.*

WHen Plowing begins in *Autumn*, before any froſts come that are forcible, to make entrance into the Earth;

Earth; obſerve where the Ploughs are going, if there be ſtore of Crows lighted on the Ground, eſpecially in that which is Heathy, Sandy, or Greenſoard, follow, and you will find a white Worm, bigger than a Gentle, having a red Head, which is held to be bred of the Spawn or Egg of a Beetle, left in thoſe holes ſhe digs in the ground under Horſe or Cow dung; which in *March* or *April*, turns to a Beetle again: You may put about two quarts of theſe, into half a Buſhel of the ſame Mould, when you gather them, put them in a Tub or other Veſſel, where the Froſt or Wind may not come to kill them; and by this means, when moſt other Baits are out, you may be provided all the ſeaſonable times in Winter, and early in Spring.

They

They take in those seasons, *Bream*, *Carp*, *Roach*, *Dace* and *Chub*.

Gentles may be kept in Winter, in Bran, Moss and Scowering Earth, lightly over some putrefaction, in which at the first laying them in the ground, where the Frost cannot come at them, you perceive they begin to live.

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## *Unseasonable times to Angle in.*

HAving spoke much of proper times to accommodate the Angler, I shall now speak somewhat more of unseasonable ones, that those who are ignorant in this Art, as to the Niceties of it, may not lose their labour.

The

The two extreams of Weather are not proper, *viz.* (1.) When great droughts have parched the Earth, so that the Rivers carry but low Currents, when the Weather is Exceſſive hot, in the Heat of the day, unleſs Clouds cover all, and Winds gently breath. (2.) In Froſty or Snowy Weather, or unhealthy Weather, for two reaſons, *viz.* becauſe you will little damage the Fiſh, but greatly injure your ſelf.

In the Morning, either in the Spring or advancing of the ſeaſon, if a Hoar Froſt happen, the Fiſh will be backward in their biting that day, and little ſport can be expected, for they will not freely riſe, except in the Evening, and ſoon after they have ſpawned they will not bite to the purpoſe, till with Graſs and Weeds they have

well

well purged and ſcowered themſelves, ſo that they may by that means recover their Strength and Appetite.

It is not proper to Fiſh when the North or Eaſt Winds be very ſharp.

In Brooks that are ſmall and clear, where the Water is kept up by Mills or Dams, it is not good Angling, for there eſpecially the *Trout* keeps her hole, and others bite faintly.

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*Some other uſeful obſervations and directions.*

1. IF you are doubtful what Bait will be taken, look in the firſt Fiſhes Stomach, and ſuch Flies, Worms, &c. as you find there, that kind at that time delights in.

Be ſure always to keep your ſhadow off the Water, and therefore

therefore let the Sun be in your Face, or on one side of you when you Angle, keeping out of sight, and making no noise; and when you are bent for *Trout*, you need make but three or four Essays with the ground Bait or Fly, for if it comes not then to Bite or offer, either there is not any there, or they keep close in their holes.

If you Fish for *Carp*, cut no Weeds in the River, nor on the sides, to make you a convenient standing, for then they will perceive they are laid wait for, and forsake that haunt, not returning in a considerable time.

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## *A curious Paste with Oyls to take Fish.*

TAke the flower of Lupins, three ounces, the Fat of a Rabbits

Rabbits Kidney an ounce, the Juice of Horſe Radiſh a quarter of an ounce, Oyl of Turpentine three drams, mix theſe together with a ſtiff hand, and make them up into a Paſte, with a little Rabbits Wool felted in with it to ſtrengthen it on the Hook, and it will take to admiration *Trout*, *Tench*, *Chub* and *Roach*, and is an excellent ground bait for moſt ſort of River or Pond Fiſh, and proportionable to direction, mix a greater quantity, adding a little Honey.

And thus have I given you in a ſmall Book, the whole Art of Angling, for by way of direction, there needs no more; all that remains now, is to put it in practice, without which, whatever can be ſaid on the Subject, ſignifies little.

*FINIS.*